

FROM: John A. Rand, Executive Director, D.O.C. - For the Records

SUBJECT: Woodsmen's Weekend 19--

While the subject of Woodsmen's Weekend is still fresh in mind I offer the following comments, hopefully constructive, and certainly not critical of the 1974 operation.

In a quick overview I cite spectator control per event (rope or barrier) as a must, along with a stronger PA system. Both are budgetary factors to be included in pre-planning.

I am concerned about:

- 1) the need of establishing a limit to the number of teams invited to compete as related to time available to conduct a good meet;
- 2) the need of study of women's competition as related to:
 - a) the specifications of events in relationship to physical aptitudes and/or health, i.e. re: packboard and portage races, size of trees felled, and speed chopping;
 - b) the scheduling and scoring of women's events.

I expect a hornets nest on this subject but I am concerned about the individual psychological and physical hazards of the female competitor. In skiing we conduct concurrent events on shortened courses, and separately scored. The same could apply here.

3) The need of foot and leg protection on all chopping events. At least Dartmouth personnel should be protected even if rule changes cannot be made. The whole subject of "on the log or cant" speed chopping bothers me since it is not the technique normally used in recreational activity and is much more dangerous than on the ground chopping.

4) The need to take advantage of instructional skills, voluntarily available from local technicians, to implement the competitive strength of Dartmouth teams. I refer to Bill Robes (Etna) who with Ross McKenney were the creators of Woodsmen's Weekend. Put Blodgett and Earl Jette are two others. Jess Scott, ex Fish and Game Officer, and national tournament fly and bait caster is possibly another.

I certainly feel that the Woodsmen's Weekend program is ideally suited to the purposes of the Dartmouth Outing Club, particularly in an educational way if we take advantage of locally available expertise in such carry-over skills as fly and bait casting, sharpening and use of saws and axes, and use and repair of canoes.

Woodsmen's Weekend 1974 was an excellent year thanks to the skills and labor of so many guys and under dedicated leadership.

JAR:owp May 17, 1974